

San Francisco, under the act of Congress extending the revenue laws over California, and measures have been taken to organize the custom house at that and other places mentioned in that act. At the earliest period practicable, the collector proceeded over land, but advices have not yet been received of his arrival at San Francisco. Meanwhile, it is understood that the customs have continued to be collected there by officers acting under the military authority, as they were during the administration of my predecessor. It would, I think, be expedient to confirm the collections thus made, and direct the avails, after such allowances as Congress may think fit to authorize, to be expended within that Territory, or to be paid into the Treasury for the purpose of making appropriations for the improvement of its rivers and harbors.

A party engaged in the Coast Survey was dispatched to Oregon in January last. According to the latest advices, they had not left California, and directions have been given to them, as soon as they shall have fixed on the sites of the light houses and the buoys authorized to be constructed and placed in Oregon, to proceed without delay to make reconnaissance of the most important points on the coast of California, and especially to examine and determine on sites for the light house on that coast—the speedy erection of which is urgently demanded by our rapidly increasing commerce.

I have transferred the Indian agencies from upper Missouri and Council Bluffs to Santa Fe and Salt Lake, and have caused to be appointed sub-agents in the valley of the Gila, Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. Further legal provisions will be necessary for the effective and successful extension of our system of Indian intercourse over the new territory. I recommend the establishment of a Branch Mint in California, as it will, in my opinion, afford important facilities to those engaged in mining, as well as the Government, in the disposition of the mineral lands.

I also recommend that commissions be organized by Congress to examine and decide upon the validity of the present subsisting land titles in California and New Mexico, and that provision be made for the establishment of the office of Surveyor General in New Mexico, California and Oregon, and for surveying and bringing into market the public lands in these Territories. These lands, remote in position and difficult of access, ought to be disposed of on terms liberal to all, but especially to early emigrants.

In order that the situation and character of the principle mineral deposits in California may be ascertained, I recommend that geological and mineralogical expedition should be connected with the surveys, and that the mineral lands be divided into small lots suited for mining, and be disposed of by sale or lease, so as to give our citizens an opportunity of procuring a permanent right of property in the soil, and which would seem to be as important as to the success of mining as of agricultural pursuits.

The great mineral wealth of California, and the advantages which its ports and harbors, and those of Oregon, afford to commerce, especially with the Islands of the Pacific and Indian oceans, and the populous regions of Eastern Asia, make it certain that there will arise, in a few years, large and prosperous communication on our Western coast. It, therefore, becomes important that a line of communication, the best and most expeditious which the nature of the country would admit, should be opened, within the territory of the United States, from the navigable waters of the Atlantic, or the Gulf of Mexico, to the Pacific. Opinions as elicited and expressed by two large and respectable conventions lately assembled at St. Louis and Memphis, point to a railroad as that which, if practicable, would best meet the wishes and wants of the country; but, while this, if in successful operation, would be a work of great National importance, and of a value to this country which it would be difficult to estimate, it ought also to be regarded as an undertaking of vast magnitude and expense, and one which must, if it be indeed practicable, encounter many difficulties in its construction and use. Therefore, to avoid failure and disappointment; to enable Congress to judge whether, in the condition of the country through which it might pass, the work be feasible, and if it be found so, whether it should be undertaken as a National improvement, or left to individual enterprise, and in this latter alternative, what aid, if any, ought to be extended to it by Government. I recommend as a preliminary measure, a careful reconnaissance of the several proposed routes by a scientific corps, and report as to the practicability of making such a road, with an estimate of the cost of its construction and support.

For further views on these, and other matters connected with the duties of the Home Department, I refer to the report of the Secretary of the Interior.

I recommend early appropriations for continuing the River and Harbor improvements which have been already begun, and also for the construction of those for which estimates have been made, as well as examinations and estimates preparatory to the commencement of such operations as the wants of the country, and especially the advance of our population in our new districts, and the extension of commerce, may render necessary. An estimate of the amount which can be advantageously expended within the next fiscal year, under the direction of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, accompanies the report of the Secretary of War—to which I respectfully invite the attention of Congress.

The cession of territory made by the late treaty with Mexico, has greatly increased our exposed frontier, and rendered its defence more difficult. That treaty has also brought us under obligations to Mexico, to comply with which a military force is requisite; but our military establishment is not materially changed, as to its efficiency, from the condition on which it stood before the commencement of the Mexican War. Some addition to it will, therefore, be necessary, and I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress an increase of the several corps of the army, at our distant Western Forts, as proposed in the accompanying Report of the Secretary of War.

Great embarrassment has resulted from the effort upon honorable rank in the army hereof given to brevet and staff commissions. The views of the Secretary of War on this subject, are deemed important, and if carried into effect, will, it is believed, promote the harmony of the service. The plan proposed for retiring disabled officers, and providing an asylum for such of the rank and file as, from age, wounds, and other infirmities, occasioned by service, have become unfit to perform their respective duties, is recommended as a means of increasing the efficiency of the army, and as an act of justice due from a grateful country to the faithful soldier.

The accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy, presents a faithful and satisfactory account of the condition and operations of the naval service during the past year. Our citizens, engaged in the legitimate pursuits of commerce, have enjoyed its benefits. Wherever our national vessel have gone, they have been received with respect. Our officers have been treated with kindness and courtesy, and they have, on all occasions, pursued a course of strict neutrality, in accordance with the policy of our Government.

The naval force at present in commission is as large as admissible with the number of men authorized by Congress to be employed.

I invite your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy, on the subject of a reorganization of the Navy in its various grades of officers, and the establishment of a retired list for such of the officers as are disqualified for active and efficient service. Should Congress adopt some such measure as is recommended, it would greatly increase the efficiency of the Navy and reduce its expenditures.

I also ask your attention to the views expressed by him, in reference to the employment of war steamers, and in regard to the contracts for the transportation of the United States' mails, and the operation of the system upon the Navy.

By an act of Congress passed August 14, 1848, provision was made for extending the Post Office and mail accommodations to California and Oregon. Exertions have been made to execute the law, but the limited provisions of the act, the inadequacy of the means it authorizes, the ill-adaptation of our Post Office laws to the situation of that country, and the measure of compensation for services allowed by those laws, compared with the prices of labor and rents in California, have rendered those exertions, in a great degree, ineffectual. More particular and efficient provision by law is required on this subject.

The act of 1848, reducing postage, has now, by its operation during four years, produced results fully showing that the income from such reduction of postage is sufficient to sustain the whole expense of the service of the Post Office Department, not including the cost of transportation in mail steamers on the lines from New York to Chagres, and from Panama to Astoria, which have not been considered by Congress as properly belonging to the mail service.

It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress whether a further reduction of postage should not now be made, more particularly on the Letter correspondence, and should be relieved from the unjust burden of transporting and delivering the franked matter of Congress—for which public service provision could be made from the Treasury. I confidently believe that a change may safely be made, reducing all single letter postage to the uniform rate of five cents, regardless of distance, without thereby imposing any greater tax on the Treasury than would constitute a very moderate compensation for this public service, and I therefore respectfully recommend such a reduction. Should Congress prefer to abolish the franking system, it is not improbable that no demand on the Treasury would result from the proposed reduction of postage. Whether any further diminution should now be made, or the result of the reduction to five cents, which

I have recommended, should be first tested, is submitted to your decision.

Since the commencement of the last session of Congress, a Postal Treaty with Great Britain has been received, and ratified, and such regulations have been formed by the Post Office Departments of the two countries, in pursuance of the treaty, as to carry its provision into full operation. The attempt to extend the same arrangement through England to France, has not been equally successful, but the purpose has not been abandoned.

For a particular statement of the condition of the Post Office Department, and other matters connected with that branch of the public service, I refer you to the report of the Postmaster General.

By the Act of the 3d of March, 1849, a Board was constituted to make arrangements for taking the Seventh Census, composed of the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Postmaster General; and it was made the duty of this Board to prepare and cause to be printed, such forms and schedules for collecting statistical tables, and, under proper heads, such information as to mines, agriculture, commerce, manufactures, education, and other topics, as would exhibit a full view of the pursuits, industry, education and resources of the country.

The duties imposed upon the Census Board thus established having been performed, it now rests with Congress to enact a law for carrying into effect the proposition of the Constitution, which requires an actual enumeration of the people of the United States within the ensuing period.

Among the duties assigned by the Constitution to the General Government, is one of local and limited application, but not on that account the less obligatory. I allude to the trust committed to Congress as the exclusive legislator and sole guardian of the interests of the District of Columbia. I beg to commend these interests to your own kind attention. As the national metropolis, the city of Washington must be an object of general interest; and founded as it was, under the auspices of him whose immortal name it bears, its claims to the fostering care of Congress present themselves with additional strength. Whatever can contribute to its prosperity, must enlist the feelings of its constitutional guardians and command their favorable consideration.

Our Government is one of limited power, and its successful administration eminently depends on the confinement of each of its co-ordinate branches within its own appropriate sphere. The first section of the Constitution ordains, that all Legislative powers there granted, shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives. The executive has authority to recommend, not to dictate measures to Congress. Having performed this duty, the Executive Department of the Government cannot rightfully control the decision of Congress on any subject of legislation, until that decision shall have been officially submitted to the President for approval.

The check provided by the Constitution in the clause conferring the qualified veto, will never be exercised by me, except in the cases contemplated by the Fathers of the Republic. I view it as an extreme measure, to be resorted to only in extraordinary cases, as where it may become necessary to defend the Executive against the encroachments of the Legislative power, or to prevent hasty and inconsiderate, or unconstitutional legislation, by cautiously confining this remedy within the sphere prescribed to it in the contemporaneous expositions of the framers of the Constitution.

The will of the people legitimately expressed, on all subjects of legislation through their constitutional organs, the Senators and Representatives of the United States, will have its full effect, and is indispensable to the preservation of our system of self government.

The independence of the Representatives of the States and the people, is guaranteed by the Constitution, and they owe no responsibility to any human power but their constituents. By holding the Representative responsible only to the people, and exempting him from all other influences, we elevate the character of the constituent, and quicken his sense of responsibility to his country. It is under these circumstances only, that the elector can feel, in the choice of the law-maker, that he is himself truly a component part of the sovereign power of the nation. With equal care, we should study to defend the rights of the Executive and Judicial Departments. Our Government can only be preserved in its purity by suppression and entire elimination of every claim or tendency of one co-ordinate branch to encroach upon the others.

The strict observance of this rule, and the other injunctions of the Constitution, with a sedulous inculcation of that respect and love for the Union of the States which our fathers cherished, and enjoined upon their children, and with the aid of that overruling Providence, which has so long and kindly guarded our liberties and Constitution, we may reasonably expect to transmit them, with their innumerable blessings, to the remotest posterity.

But attachment to the Union of the States, should be habitually fostered in every American heart. For more than half a century, during which kingdoms and empires have fallen, this Union has stood unshaken. The patriots who formed it have long since descended to the grave, yet still it remains, the proudest monument to their memory, and the object of affection and admiration with every one worthy to bear the American name.

In my judgement, its dissolution would be the greatest calamities, and to avert it, should be the study of every American. Upon its preservation must depend our own happiness, and that of countless generations to come. Whatever dangers may threaten it, I shall stand by it and maintain its integrity, to the full extent of the obligations

imposed, and the power conferred, upon me by the Constitution.

Z. TAYLOR.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24th, 1849.



**The Organizer.**

BENJAMIN F. DILL, WILLIAM DELAY,  
Editor. Printer and Publisher.

OXFORD, MI.,

Saturday, Jan. 5, 1850.

Mr. B. F. Dill will remain in Jackson during the session of the Legislature.

A WHIG PAPER IN OREGON.—A paper to be called the Whig Star, will be published in this place by Mr. J. G. Abbot, formerly of the Granada Republican—to commence sometime during this or next month. Success to it peculiarly, but hope the abominable doctrine it is to advocate will keep growing downwards.

MALE ACADEMY.—Mr. A. H. Conkey, having severed his connection with the Oxford Male Academy, will open on the 14th inst., a Private English and Classical School in the town of Oxford, for the education of boys and young men.—Terms as in the Academy. The Male Academy will be continued under the direction of J. W. Rison, as principal.

THE NEXT U. S. SENATOR.

We have published from time to time, several articles taken from the press of North Mississippi, which show that our contemporaries as well as the people, are fully aroused to the necessity of asserting and maintaining the rights of this portion of the State to furnish the next Senator in Congress. It will be seen that some of our Northern friends are becoming a little excited on the subject of the selection of a Senator; but we advise moderation; for although as far as we can learn, no one newspaper or prominent man, South or East has acknowledged or even recognized the right of North Mississippi to elect the U. S. Senator; yet we have an abiding confidence in the reason, sense and justice of the demand we make, and in the liberality of the Legislature to award to us "equal rights." We ask nothing more of our Southern friends than a fair participation of the public favors in the bestowal of office, which is inseparable from the right of representation. It is not our wish that every officer under the State government should be conferred upon Northern Democrats, but only a sufficient to let our public servants know that we have rights and local interests to represent.

There is but one opinion among the Democracy in North Mississippi in relation to our sectional right to the Senator for this portion of the State, however they may differ as to the man to be chosen. We can easily settle that point among ourselves, for we have more than one man among us, who we think is qualified to represent the State in that high station. "A Democratic Voter," which we notice in the Pioneer Sovereign, speaks in very plain terms, of the conduct of our Southern friends, yet we are compelled to say he tells the truth in describing their conduct in conventions and the Legislature; and we are sorry to bear witness to the illiberal policy of which he accuses them, and fear it has too often been verified, much to the disturbance of the harmony of our party. While the South cannot charge us with a similar want of liberality, for North Mississippi has always given a cordial support to Southern men, when sound and true to our cause. The Southern portion of the State ought not to suppose, because the Northern Democracy give their support to men, who are selected by an accidental majority in conventions or Legislative caucuses, by the faithless conduct of some of our own men, or from the inconvenience it is for many to attend the conventions, in consequence of the remote point at which they are held from us, that, therefore, this portion of the State is always satisfied at any selection that can be made of candidates. It should not be presumed that because the North Mississippi Democrats do not attempt to disorganize the party, that therefore they are content and satisfied with any injustice practiced on them. It is one thing to submit, and another to rest satisfied under grievous oppression. We regret to say, that the Democracy of North Mississippi so far as we have heard an expression of feeling, have not for several

years been satisfied with the manner in which they have been treated by their Southern brethren who from their contiguity to the Capital bring their strength to bear on every occasion, when candidates are to be selected by the party.

It is not our wish, or inclination, to foster or keep alive sectional feelings which may have already been created; because the engendering of such prejudices in our ranks may some day prove disastrous to our party unity, at a time when harmony may be most necessary. We sincerely desire to see kind and liberal feelings actuate the whole Democratic party of the State, for it is that course alone which gives us our strength and influence, and will enable us to present a bold front to our common enemy. If however the proscription course is kept up in the South towards North Mississippi—the strong hold of Democracy in the State, which in every close contest turns the scale in favor of our time honored principles, we much fear the future developments in our ranks. It was said by a prominent Southern Democrat in the last State Convention that the reason why the claims of the North had not been respected for public station was because the "South always presented men of superior talent. We are perfectly willing the South may enjoy this self-satisfaction if it is any pleasure to them, but we doubt very much the propriety of such a swaggering remark. We will merely say in reply to the above declaration, that we have Northern men in whose talents and consistency we are willing to confide, men who will present a bold front against the present venal and treacherous administration, and who will not quail before the glare of the Hero of Buena Vista in the White House. Just such a man as we now need in the Senate of the United States.

The Jacksonian desires to know who "Who authorized the Organizer to pledge the Democracy of North Mississippi to vote for a Southern U. S. Senator two years hence." We would merely state for information, that the pledge was made upon the known character for liberality, and magnanimity of the North Mississippi Democracy. Knowing as we do from a long residence among them, that they are not disposed to seek a monopoly of offices notwithstanding their superior numbers, and the great injustice with which they have heretofore been treated by the Southern portion of the State.

By the way, friend Silby, "Show us your hand" for U. S. Senator. Do you believe there is any man in the Democratic party in North Mississippi qualified for United States Senator at this time?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We give in our paper of to-day, the long-looked for Message of President Taylor. It can no longer be said, we suppose, that the Whigs have no platform, as we have been time and again referred to the forthcoming President's Message for the Whig platform. Well here it is; but whether or not the Whigs can stand on it, remains to be seen. One would think those anti-protective tariff Whig orators, who told us last summer they were in favor of the present tariff, could hardly get on this platform; but inasmuch as consistency is not an attribute of Whiggery, it is presumed they will jump on tender-footed and all—say nothing of the various other rough places on it. It will do for them to sail up Salt River on, as they are bound to do. More anon.

Triumph of Southern Rights.—Election of H. COBB, of Georgia, Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives.

An organization of the U. S. House of Representatives, was effected on the 22nd ult., by the election of H. Cobb, of Georgia, Speaker on the 63d ballot. After the 59th ballot, the following resolution was introduced by Mr. Stanton of Tenn., and adopted:

"Resolved, That the House proceed to elect a Speaker, and that if, after calling the roll three times, no member shall have received a majority of all the votes, the roll shall be again called, and the member receiving the largest number of votes, provided it be a majority of a quorum, shall be speaker."

Several amendments were proposed but voted down. The roll call proceeded, and three unsuccessful ballots were taken. The fourth ballot, being the 63d in all, was then taken, and stood thus: Cobb 102, Winthrop 100, Wilmot 8, Stevens 1, Morehead 4, Burke 1, Strong 3, Boyd 3, Calcock 3.

Then Cobb was declared duly elected Speaker.

The Monroe Democrat has a queer article on the Senatorial election.

Snow Storm.—It would seem that our Northern allies who have been attempting to engraft their principles on us, have in advance, sent us one of their regular built "Nor-Westers," as a foretaste of what we may expect if they should succeed in their black designs. On Sunday last it "snowed—it blew" all but "fritz." If this is the Northern way of doing things, we say no more of that "Hal" if you like us.

Hymental.

MARRIED.—On Christmas Eve, by the Rev. Wm. S. Burney, Mr. H. W. WALTER, of Holly Springs, to Miss FREDONIA, daughter of Col. James Brown, of Veranda Place, this co.

GOSSIP.

Christmas is over, to business boys, all hands. And a merry Christmas it has been, and if, too, to add to the beauty and merriment, Mother Earth put on a white gown. Snow bailing parties had their amusements—egg-nog in great demand; eggs riz to 25 cents per doz.—Sleigh-riding parties gliding to and fro on every side, by day and by moon light; and the gallant steeds as though fond of the sport, dashing off at the top of their speed with majestic grandeur, apparently never weary; and the sleigh-bells constantly ringing, and the other belles wringing the hearts of some of the young gents. Our excellent Brass Band, too, discoursed fine music, to add more life to the scene. Conversation parties, prominating—speeches were made, some wasn't made, some got married, some wanted to be, and some couldn't come it. And last, though not least, some rare "specimen" what lives in a "glass house," threw "sticks"—got into a difficulty with a young lady and came off second-best in the affair.

For the Organizer.

U. S. SENATOR.

MR. EDITOR: I am not accustomed to writing for a newspaper, but I have heard much talk of late and seen a good deal said in the papers in relation to the choice of a United States Senator; and I have been induced to commit my few ideas to paper, for the press on that important subject, if you think them worth publication.

Is it possible, as I see it stated in the papers, that not one of the whole of our recently elected State officers lives north of Jackson, and both of our United States Senators live in or near Jackson; and that portion of the State is still claiming all the offices—State as well as National? I make this inquiry for information; for such a State of things seems to me to be so unreasonable, that I can scarcely believe their truth, yet I do not see these statements contradicted, and I take it they must be true.

It is taught in my school of politics, which I confess is very old, and may not suit the notions of modern ambition, that one of the first principles of a republican government, is, that the representative should reside, and make his home among his constituents, else how can he know their wants, and be responsible to them for his acts? If all our State officers and Senators in Congress, live at a distance of two or three hundred miles from us, they certainly must know but little of our local condition or local wants. So far then, as it interests or benefits us directly, we may as well be represented by our neighboring States—Alabama or Tennessee, for we have just as much participation in the affairs of their State governments, and live equally near the Capitals of their States, as our own. I have always understood that North Mississippi was the most populous portion of the State, and cast the largest number of votes; but if the present state of things continue much longer, I am afraid South Mississippi will furnish us a member of Congress for this district who lives about Jackson; for I expect there are more "great men" there than can get offices, and they doubtless think there is no one on this way qualified to represent us. This I should very much regret, for we would then lose our faithful representative, Hon. Jake Thompson, who, I think, would make a good U. S. Senator. And there is just as much good reason in the South claiming to represent us in the House, as the U. S. Senate; for I can see no difference in the justice of such a claim. I hope the North will let the political tricksters down South cheat us out of our political "birthright" without even receiving a "mess of pottage."

A PLAIN DEMOCRAT.

We designed publishing a communication from the Pontotoc Sovereign, in this paper, signed "A Democratic Voter."